

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 030327  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 /028 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CAN:CJCLEMENT:PW  
APPROVED BY EUR/CAN:JHROUSE, JR.  
-----053615 041540Z /43

R 040657Z PEB 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL  
AMCONSUL QUEBEC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 030327

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: QUEBEC OFFICE IN WASHINGTON

FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE (NOT USED) WAS PREPARED  
FOR DEPT'S SPOKESPERSON. IT IS SUPPLIED TO YOU ON AN FYI  
AND IF RAISED BASIS:

BACKGROUND:

THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN A TOURISM OFFICE  
IN WASHINGTON TODAY. QUESTIONS WERE RAISED ABOUT IT NOVEM-  
BER 30, 1977, AND MAY COME UP AGAIN TODAY.

QUESTION: HOW DOES THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT VIEW THE  
OPENING OF AN OFFICE IN WASHINGTON TODAY BY THE PRO-  
VINCE OF QUEBEC?

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ANSWER: WE ARE AWARE THAT THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC IS OPEN-  
ING A SMALL OFFICE IN WASHINGTON TO PROMOTE TOURISM TO  
QUEBEC. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WILL OPERATE  
AS A BRANCH OF THE QUEBEC OFFICE IN NEW YORK CITY, WHICH IS  
PROPERLY REGISTERED AS A FOREIGN AGENT.

QUESTION: DOES THE U.S. GOVERNMENT APPROVE OF THIS?

ANSWER: MANY FOREIGN ENTITIES INCLUDING QUEBEC AND OTHER CANADIAN PROVINCES MAINTAIN TOURIST AND TRADE OFFICES IN VARIOUS CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES. NO FORMAL APPROVAL OF THESE OFFICES BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS CALLED FOR UNDER U.S. LAW. THE PERSONNEL OF THE OFFICES DO NOT ENJOY OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC STATUS IN THE UNITED STATES. THE OFFICES ARE REQUIRED TO MEET NOTIFICATION AND REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS OF OUR FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION LAWS.

QUESTION: DID THE CANADIAN EMBASSY OR GOVERNMENT RAISE THIS MATTER WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT?

ANSWER: THE FACTUAL AND LEGAL SITUATION HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE CANADIAN EMBASSY.

QUESTION: DID THE QUEBEC PROVINCE SEEK U.S. GOVERNMENT APPROVAL?

ANSWER: THE QUEBEC PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT INFORMED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THROUGH OUR CONSUL GENERAL IN QUEBEC OF ITS INTENTION TO OPEN THIS SMALL OFFICE FOR PROMOTING TOURISM TO QUEBEC. NO APPROVAL BY U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS NEEDED, AND NONE WAS SOUGHT. VANCE

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Executive Order:** n/a  
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**Subject:** QUEBEC OFFICE IN WASHINGTON FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS QUIDANCE (NOT USED) WAS PREPARED FOR DEPT'S SPOKESPERSON. IT IS SUPPLIED TO YOU ON  
**TAGS:** SOPN, CA, SOPN  
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**Review Markings:**  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014